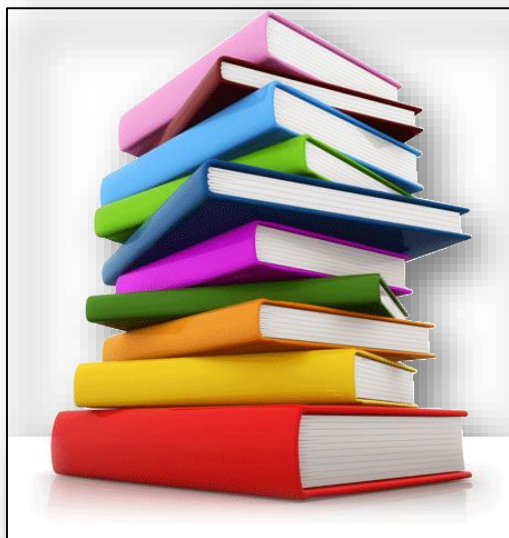


Making Connections – Changing Your Lens

1. Make “Changing Your Lens” cards for each of the students in your class using six different colors of construction paper. Use the attached pattern. Duplicate one sheet of the graphics per color. Cut out the cards. Laminate if desired.
2. Each of the cards represents one of the following types of connections:
 - Personal experiences
 - School subjects
 - Other books
 - Community
 - General knowledge
 - People
 - NOTE: You could create your own categories for making connections
3. Select a story or passage. Provide students with ample time to read the selection.
4. Divide the class into groups of six.
5. Talk about the different connections represented.
6. Give a different colored “Changing Your Lens” card to each student in the group. The “Changing Your Lens” card they have been given will be their focus for discussion about the story.
7. Allow time for the students to discuss the story, using their “Changing Your Lens” perspective. After they have discussed the story in small groups, have them share their ideas with the large group.
8. For variety, give each group the same kind of “Changing Your Lens” card so that one group has “school subjects”, another “personal experiences”, etc.
9. Options:
 - Use the graphic organizers provided to list the connections made for each category.
 - Have the students create large posters for each connection using the “Changing Your Lens” graphics.
 - Make a large classroom poster similar to either graphic organizer. Use it repeatedly by having students record their connections on sticky notes.



Making Connections

Personal Experiences 	School Subjects 	Other Books 	Community 	General Knowledge 	People 

Making Connections

